



State of Wisconsin  
**Department of Health and Family Services**

Jim Doyle, Governor  
Helene Nelson, Secretary

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**For Immediate Release**

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**IMMUNIZE YOUR CHILDREN TO HELP KEEP THEM HEALTHY**

MADISON— The Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services reminds parents and guardians to protect their children against serious disease by vaccinating them on time with all recommended immunizations. Vaccines are among the most successful and cost-effective public health tools available for preventing disease.

“One of the most important things you can do to protect your children against serious diseases is to make sure they are properly immunized,” said Jeff Berg, Immunization Advisor. “The recent surge of mumps cases in the U.S. is a reminder that vaccine preventable diseases are still circulating, but with proper immunization, the spread of the disease can be prevented or slowed.”

On-time vaccination of children averts 210,000 cases of preventable diseases and 660 deaths in Wisconsin each year, and saves an estimated \$210 million annually in direct health care costs. Wisconsin is a national leader in efforts to vaccinate infants and children; by the time children reach two years old, approximately 80% have received their recommended immunizations.

Immunizations are safe due to advancements in medical research and ongoing review by doctors and researchers. “Children are far more likely to be harmed by serious infectious diseases than by immunization,” said Berg.

In addition to annual flu shots for babies 6-23 months of age, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends the following immunizations for children:

<b>Age</b>	<b>Immunization</b>
2 months	DTaP (#1) – Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (Whooping Cough) Hepatitis B (#1) – Some infants may get their first shot at birth Hib (#1) – Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib Meningitis) PCV (#1) – Pneumococcal disease Polio (#1)
4 months	DTaP (#2) Hepatitis B (#2) Hib (#2) PCV (#2) Polio (#2)

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<b>6 months</b>	DTaP (#3) Hepatitis B (#3) Hib (#3) PCV (#3) Polio (#3)
<b>12 months</b>	MMR (#1) – Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Varicella – Chickenpox Hib (#4) PCV (#4)
<b>15 months</b>	DTaP (#4) – Can be given as early as 12 months
<b>2 years</b>	Hepatitis A (Two-dose series)
<b>Before Kindergarten</b>	Polio (#4) DTaP (#5) MMR (#2)

Learn more about immunizations at <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/immunization>

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